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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY China (Sinkiang)
SUBJECT The 1941 Sinkiang Population Survey/Shift
of Population Since 1941

PLACE
ACQUIRED

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1.

1941 survey

This survey was conducted by the Sinkiang Provincial Government in 1940-1941, at the direction of Governor Sheng Shih-tsai. The figures were secured and compiled by the Commissariat of Police. As all people, regardless of age, who resided in, or around, urban areas had to be registered with their local police station, it was a rather simple task to count and segregate the urban population into the 14 races, four reli- gions and four major tongues. As for the nomadic inhabitants of Sinkiang, the existing tax-collecting methods were utilized to count them. The area chieftains of the various races, who were responsible for the collection of taxes from the members of their group, were held responsible to furnish an accurate list of the people under their jurisdiction.

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2.

The following are the only figures relating to the 1941 survey of the Sinkiang population:

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a. The racial breakdown of the figure 3,730,051, representing the total population of Sinkiang, was as follows:

(1)	Uighurs	2,900,173
(2)	Kazakhs	318,716
(3)	Chinese	202,239
(4)	Tungans	92,146
(5)	Kirghiz	65,248

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(6)	Mongols	63,018
(7)	Taranchi	41,307
(8)	Russians	13,408
(9)	Sibos	9,203
(10)	Tadjiks	8,867
(11)	Uzbeks	7,966
(12)	Tatars	4,601
(13)	Solons	2,489
(14)	Manchus	670

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b. The breakdown of the total population according to religion was:

(1)	Moslems	3,439,024
(2)	Confucian Buddhists	214,601
(3)	Lama Buddhists	63,018
(4)	Greek Orthodox	13,408

c. The breakdown of the total population according to the major languages spoken in Sinkiang was:

(1)	Turkic	3,346,878
(2)	Chinese	306,747
(3)	Mongolian	63,018
(4)	Russian	13,408

d. The approximate distribution of the Sinkiang population in the 10 administrative regions was:

(1)	Kashgar	900,000
(2)	Khotan	605,000
(3)	Aqsu	581,000
(4)	Yarkand	561,000
(5)	Urumchi	372,000
(6)	Ili	351,000
(7)	Tarbagatai	144,000
(8)	Qara Shahr	106,000
(9)	Altai	63,000
(10)	Hami	48,000

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3.

the only major change in the population of Sinkiang, since 1941, has been in the Chinese and White Russian inhabitants of that province. There has been no major shift within, away from, or into Sinkiang of the Moslem peoples of Sinkiang. They have remained, on the whole, unaffected by the Sinkiang political changes after 1941. The following are the major shifts affecting the Chinese and White Russian populace of Sinkiang:

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- a. When Governor Sheng abandoned his pro-Soviet policy in the fall of 1943 and requested that his Soviet advisors leave the province, the Soviets forced all the White Russians, who had accepted Soviet citizenship, to move from seven regions of Sinkiang into the Ili, Tarbagatai and Altai Regions. Most of the White Russian youth ultimately were removed to the USSR. The large Urumchi Russian community dwindled to a handful.
- b. After Governor Sheng returned his allegiance to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, in the fall of 1943, there was a great influx of Chinese troops, farmers and laborers into Sinkiang. This influx of Chinese continued until 29 Sep 49, when the Chinese officials in Sinkiang recognized the Chinese People's Government.
- c. During the Soviet-sponsored Moslem uprising which started in Kuldja on 7 Nov 44 and which terminated in the separation of the Ili, Tarbagatai and Altai Regions (East Turkistan People's Republic) from the rest of Sinkiang, all the Chinese residents (men, women and children) of these three regions were massacred.

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- d. After the Kuldja uprising, most of the White Russian residents of the Altai Region were forcibly relocated in Kuldja, or the USSR.
- e. There was a large influx of Soviet troops, engineers, technicians and advisors into the East Turkestan People's Republic during and after the Kuldja uprising of 7 Nov 44.
- f. [redacted] after 29 Sep 49, when Sinkiang went over to the Communists, great numbers of Chinese laborers and Soviet technicians were brought to Sinkiang not only to exploit the natural resources of that province, but also to build industries there.

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